

N. Y. TEACHERS FIGHT A VOTE ON SALARIES

Plea for Pension Bill, but Oppose Referendum on Their Pay.

CITY ASSUMES ANNUITIES

ALBANY, March 21.—New York city school teachers who came to Albany today in connection with the introduction of a bill to place the teachers' pension fund on a sound actuarial basis proposed this afternoon before the Senate Committee on the referendum measure of Senator Elton R. Brown, providing for a decision by the people of the city on the question as to whether they want regulation of all salaries other than those of judicial and elective officers by local authorities.

The basis of the objection was that education is a state function and the teachers' salaries should be controlled by the State. Ernest L. Crandall, speaking for the teachers, said that the proposed change as embodied in the referendum would throw the school system into politics.

"You once gave the local authorities power to regulate these salaries," he said, "and only took it away in 1900, when they proved themselves incompetent. And the fact that they are now incompetent is shown by the appeals taken to the State Commission of Education only recently on the action of the local authorities in avoiding the law. This bill will save the city a cent but will throw the whole thing into politics and create a spirit of unrest among the teachers."

James Sullivan, chairman of the legislative committee of the Federation of Teachers Associations, affirmed that the question is one of statewide interest and that school teachers should be exempted from the same as judicial and elective officers.

Senator Brown said that all the Legislature wishes to do is to find whether or not the people of New York city want to have the Legislature or local authorities regulate the salaries and that this was the object of reporting the bill by his committee, which investigated the finances of the city last summer.

"The uniform rule," he added, "is to allow the character of salaries to be fixed by local authorities except in New York. We do not want it said that the Legislature will not give New York what it gives to other cities of the State. I do not say that the exception is wrong, but I do say that we want the people of New York to make up their minds. The pension bill provides for retirement on half pay pensions after thirty years of service without age limit. After thirty years pensions increase automatically. Proportionate disability pensions are provided for after twenty years of service.

There also is a provision for the return of all amounts contributed, plus 4 per cent compound interest, to any person leaving the service and paying into the state of teachers who die before retirement.

The fundamental principle of the pension measure is equal contribution by the city and the teachers, the city assuming the entire burden of carrying present commitments.

MITCHELL APPROVES PLAN

Mayor Says Provisions Are Equitable to All Concerned.

Mayor Mitchell and Comptroller Frenkel announced yesterday that the Pension Commission and representatives of the teachers' associations had reached an agreement with respect to the teachers' retirement fund and that the bill prepared by the City Chamberlain and introduced in the Legislature yesterday had the approval of the teachers.

"In the last five years," says the statement, "the city has indirect contributions to the teachers' retirement fund averaged \$100,000. The initial contribution required from the city under the proposed law will be \$1,000,000, a difference of approximately \$900,000. In the past year the teachers' contributions to the retirement fund amounted to about \$100,000. In the first year of the operation of the new law the teachers' contributions will be somewhat in excess of the city's contributions and will shortly decrease below that of the city."

"The teachers' contributions will gradually reduce to an average of 4.6 per cent of salaries. But the city's contribution will not be reduced to this level until the assumed liabilities of the existing pension roll and the excess liability of the present active force are liquidated."

"For two years it has been known that the existing teachers' fund was destined to bankruptcy. At the request of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, legislative action was taken to place the fund on a sound basis. The plan proposed is desirable, not only from the standpoint of the teachers' force and the schools, but that it will prove to be in the interest of taxpayers as a measure of ultimate substantial economy."

The basis of the measures provided in the bill is in every way equitable to the teachers. The city government, Board of Education and the teachers are all given a substantial voice in the administration of the fund, and every provision is taken in the bill to provide for the fund's future management according to sound actuarial principles."

BIBLE IN SCHOOLS ATTACKED

Bill for Scriptural Readings Laid to Rest.

ALBANY, March 21.—Mr. John Walsh of Troy, speaking for the Right Rev. Thomas C. Cullen, Catholic Bishop of Albany, the Rev. Joseph H. Dunne and Charles J. Tobin of Albany and Philip H. Donnelly of Rochester, denounced the Senate bill today, which would give the Regents authority to name a committee to select scriptural readings or Bible of the public schools, as un-American and unconstitutional. They insisted that it would destroy discipline, create dissension and bitterness among children of various denominations and work to the detriment of Catholic children. They said that the bill was class legislation, which would intensify bigotry. In reply Senator Greiner affirmed that he was doing God's work and if the Senate Committee on Public Education obeyed the dictates of their consciences and the command of the Lord they would report the bill favorably.

Cassidy Seeks to Be Cited Again.

ALBANY, March 21.—"Curly Joe" Cassidy was in the Capitol today seeking to have the way for an application to obtain restoration of his citizenship. Cassidy interviewed several legislators to this end.

SUFFRAGE BILL PASSES SENATE COMMITTEE, 11 TO 1

Senator Brown Casts the Negative Ballot on Hard Fought Measure—Women Pin Violets on Everybody Present and Predict Victory To-morrow.

ALBANY, March 21.—Passage of the Breckinridge woman suffrage measure in the Senate on Tuesday was predicted to-night by leaders in the movement after the Senate Judiciary Committee had acted favorably to-night on the amendment. Mrs. James Lees Laidlaw and Mrs. Norman de R. Whitehouse were particularly sanguine.

"I am even more certain of the amendment passing the Senate than I was when it was reported to the Assembly," said Mrs. Laidlaw. "It is an absolute certainty."

Mrs. Whitehouse was equally confident. "In view of the assurances of Senator Brown that he would take no steps to influence the vote on the amendment in the Senate, but content himself with simply voting against it, I cannot see why it should not pass," she said. "We are certain of a big majority, but could not properly make public the number at present."

The action of the Senate Judiciary Committee was announced at the close of a busy day for the suffragists. They had been waiting in the corridor outside the Judiciary Committee room for hours when the doorkeeper announced that favorable action had been taken by the committee. Eleven Senators voted in favor of the amendment. Senator Brown opposed it. Immediately there was a flurry among the suffragists. They pinned bouquets of

COMMITTEE APPROVES CARTER AND DR. COFER

Confirmation to Follow—Thompson Says He's Through Opposing Whitman.

ALBANY, March 21.—The Senate Finance Committee today decided to report to-morrow for confirmation Gov. Whitman's nomination of Dr. Carter to be Health Officer of the Port of New York at a salary of \$12,000 and James M. Carter of Buffalo to be State Superintendent of Prisons at a salary of \$2,000. Confirmation by the Senate is expected. Dr. Carter represents the Federal public health service and although the Governor recommended that the office of Health Officer of the Port of New York be abolished and the work performed by the Federal Government such legislation is not to be passed this year.

The Carter nomination has been held up pending decision of his eligibility. It being claimed he was not a resident of New York State. Chairman Sage, however, in an opinion of Attorney-General Woodbury, who found Dr. Carter had acquired such residence at the Hotel Astor.

Senator George F. Thompson declared today that he was "through opposing nominations sent to the Senate by Gov. Whitman." "As a matter of fact the Senate is not doing anything," he said. "The Governor does everything. He makes the appointments and has them confirmed. Hereafter, just as soon as a nomination is sent to the Senate I am going to be the first to move confirmation."

DIRECT TAX OR ECONOMY

Preparations and City's Finance Were Cost High.

ALBANY, March 21.—Direct State tax in 1917 was believed to be certain following a conference today between the Governor and Republican leaders. The demands of preparedness and relief for New York's financial plight are given as the cause.

At the conference in the Executive Chamber today besides the Governor were Chairman Sage of the Senate Finance Committee, Chairman Maier of the Assembly Ways and Means Committee, Speaker Sweet of the Assembly, and other members of the financial committee of the two houses.

A delegation of fourteen labor leaders representing 750,000 members of unions throughout the State, will protest to Gov. Whitman to-morrow against the proposed appropriation of \$500,000 for a State convalescent and infirmarium on local option by districts.

MRS. HEARST TO AID WIDOWS

Wants Pensions Put in Hands of Child Welfare Board.

ALBANY, March 21.—Mrs. William Randolph Hearst and Miss Sophie French came to Albany today in behalf of an amendment to the child welfare law which would take the administration of widows' pensions out of the control of the charities Department of New York city and leave it with the Child Welfare Board.

Mrs. Hearst and Miss French, after talking with leaders of both houses, prepared amendments to the existing law which eliminate the New York Commissioner of Charities as a member of the Child Welfare Board.

WINS JOB BEFORE HIGH COURT

Accountant of Education Board Gets Mandamus Order.

ALBANY, March 21.—The Appellate Division of the Supreme Court, First Department, was reversed today by the Court of Appeals, which reinstated Hermann Goldschmidt as accountant in the bureau of supplies of the New York City Board of Education. The decision of the Special Term granting a peremptory writ of mandamus was sustained by the highest court.

The removal of the accountant was not complete until the ratification of the Board of Education and the steps taken to terminate the service of Mr. Goldschmidt were not in accordance with the rules of the department.

HISTORIC MANSION BURNED

Second Attempt to Destroy Pelletreau House in Success.

SOUTHAMPTON, L. I., March 21.—The second attempt to burn a week to burn the historic Pelletreau mansion on North Main street, this place, was successful late last night. The house, which is the oldest in the section, and was filled with a valuable collection of antique furniture. The property was recently acquired by Frank L. Jennings, but was unoccupied.

There was a fire on the lower floor of the house a week ago. Firemen found someone had been poured over the rug and furniture. Little damage was done at that time.

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WATERSHED BILLS DIE IN COMMITTEE

No Mohansic Action This Session—Work on Institutions to Halt, Says Whitman.

FEARS BLAME OF CITY

ALBANY, March 21.—There will be no legislation this year such as is desired by the advocates of the Wagner and Walter bills which would take the Mohansic State Insane Asylum and the Yorktown State Training School for Boys off of the Croton watershed. The Senate Finance Committee today, by a vote of 4 to 1, refused to report the Wagner bill and then refused to take up the Walter bill. Last week the Assembly Ways and Means Committee took a position more strongly against these bills, the vote being 11 to 2.

Chairman Sage of the Senate Finance Committee declared tonight that if those two institutions were legislated off the Croton watershed the demand would be made that other public institutions be taken off, and the city would extend to the expulsion of public institutions not only from the Ashokan watershed but other municipal watersheds in the State.

SAGE URGES DELAY

"This question should be fully investigated and not decided hastily," Senator Sage said tonight pending this investigation no more work will be done at either institution, and only enough money appropriated to protect and utilize what the State already has there. Perhaps by another year we will know just what we want to do in this matter and to all the people of the State."

Gov. Whitman made it plain tonight that the construction of these institutions would not be continued as long as he is Governor.

"It is not an act of justice to take New York city from isolation of its water by the difficult from these institutions," the Governor said tonight. "In fact, I am inclined to believe there is no danger, but as long as there is the distinct difference of expert opinion on this point I am not the one to say that there is no danger."

"Given if there were no danger the psychological effect would be almost as bad as the actual danger. The idea of the State taking the water from the city would be very bad. If the construction of the institutions were allowed, New York city for the next twenty years would be liable to Mohansic."

State's Loss \$1,000,000,000

"Of course there will be a big loss. The State has spent approximately \$1,000,000,000 there, and it will be lost. But I think the State has to fight to go on over the course and vigorous protest of the entire city. On the other hand, I do not think the city's attitude is exactly right. It is a fact that a bill providing for the abandonment of the institutions was vetoed by Gov. Glynn at the instance of Mayor Mitchell. The city made the initial error, and I think it is only fair that the city should stand the expense."

Both Senator Wagner and Assemblyman Maier intend to move on the floor of each house to take the bill from the committee, but their efforts will be unsuccessful. Edward Hatch, representing the Merchants Association, which has been prominent in advocating the protection of the Croton watershed, said tonight:

"The citizens of New York city have been relying on the assurance of legislation following the conference in the Governor's office last week that these institutions would be removed. It is an outrage that the Legislature of New York can so ignore the health or the lives of the citizens in the greatest city in the world. We hope that the Governor will use his influence to save the prestige of the State in this matter. It looks now as if the Legislature wishes to impose this constant danger upon the city."

TO PASS ON CARDS AND DANCES

Theatres Also Will Be Considered by Methodists at Peekskill.

PEEKSKILL, March 21.—The 11th annual session of the New York Methodist Episcopal Conference, which will elect clerical and lay delegates and frame memorials to the General Conference at Saratoga in May, began here today at the Hotel Hamilton. The Rev. Arthur Ball and Capt. Jack Crawford of the Boy Scouts made addresses.

The conference will be held at the card playing, theatre going, whether the time limit for pastimes shall be restored, and whether a negro bishop shall be elected.

Bishop Wilson, who is expected will be transferred to Washington, will preside all week.

HEINS GIVES UNIVERSITY \$25,000

KANSAS CITY, Mo., March 21.—The Kansas City University received a gift of \$25,000 from Henry J. Heins, the "pickle king," yesterday.

The gift was made many gifts of cash to the university, was president of the board of managers for years. Previous donations of Mr. Heins, with those of Dr. Samuel T. Neather, made the university possible.

ROCKEFELLER WEALTH FOR EIGHT COLLEGES

Gift of \$1,275,000 to Institutions Seeking to Increase Their Funds.

The latest installment of the annual report of the General Education Board, founded by John D. Rockefeller, gives a list of the appropriations made last year to colleges. They were as follows:

Vanderbilt University, \$300,000 toward a total fund of \$1,000,000. Cornell University, \$250,000 toward a total fund of \$1,000,000. Vassar College, \$200,000 toward a total fund of \$1,000,000.

Delson University, Granville, Ohio, \$125,000 toward a total fund of \$500,000. Colorado College, Colorado Springs, \$125,000 toward a total fund of \$500,000.

Pomona College, Claremont, Cal., \$100,000 toward a total fund of \$500,000. Davidson College, Davidson, N. C., \$25,000 toward a total fund of \$100,000.

These institutions have undertaken to increase their endowment funds to \$2,500,000 and the board has assisted by subscribing \$1,275,000.

"Four of the foregoing institutions," says the report, "have close denominational connections and are connected with the church. It is upon a strict four year high school basis. However, the board has several instances in the past, has made contributions to institutions that admit students on a lower basis.

CIGAR RAIDS MAY REVEAL U. S. GRAFT

Wholesale Revenue Arrests Expected to Show Immunity Bribes.

SYSTEM SAID TO BE WIDE

The arrests of tobacco manufacturers in this and other cities are expected to lead to an investigation into charges whispered yesterday to the effect that the internal revenue laws with the connivance of Federal employees, that they had paid tribute in return for immunity. Indigation among many of the ninety-nine persons arrested in Manhattan, twenty-four in Brooklyn and several in Jersey was intense. Several of them are reported to have expressed their readiness to go before the Federal grand jury and tell what they know about graft among Federal employees. In fact, they say they not only will tell stories but they have corroborating evidence to substantiate their charges.

Federal officials, who refused to permit their names to be used, said they had heard of the charges and that they expected to see them presented in written form. They denied, however, that the present wholesale arrests had been made with the idea of gathering information concerning collusion of Federal employees. It was reported yesterday that conferences of Federal officials on the matter have been held in Washington and that on Monday there was a conference in this city of the acting Secretary of the Treasury, John Z. Lewis, Collector of Internal Revenue of the Second district, and L. G. Nutt, internal revenue agent.

The story is that cigar manufacturers paid from \$1 to \$5 to a week to certain men on the understanding that they would not be molested for using a second or third hand cigar boxes with old revenue stamps, or for fake labels on certain brands of expensive cigars, or for making false returns to the Collector of Internal Revenue as to the number of cigars they manufactured. Other violations of the law from which they received immunity also were mentioned.

It was learned yesterday that warrants have been issued not only for the small manufacturer but also for several big dealers. Arrests have been made in plants having on hand as high as 2,000,000 cigars. All the product has been seized by the revenue collectors, and the total value is put high as \$2,500,000.

Not alone cheap cigars have been sold without payment of the internal revenue tax of \$2 a thousand, but certain manufacturers have produced pseudo Hoyo, Carolina perfectos and other expensive brands. Whereas the genuine cigars of these brands sell wholesale for \$20 a thousand, the fake brands are sold at \$100 a thousand. The labels were made in Germany.

Assistant United States Attorney Emilio Vasselli, who has charge of the cases in the Southern District of New York, announced last night that ninety-nine arrests had been made. Assistant District Attorney Vine Smith of Brooklyn reported twenty-four arrests. It is expected that at least 150 arrests will be made.

Carl E. Whitney, who is in the office of Henry A. Smith, for the defense of the defendants, said last night that the arrests were "outrageous and without justification."

He asserted that shops of small manufacturers were being closed, their stocks confiscated and before they can start business again they must give a new bond and get a new license.

MORE RAIDS PROMISED

U. S. to Make Revenue War Throughout Nation.

WASHINGTON, March 21.—Vigorous prosecution of tax frauds against the internal revenue service which was inaugurated yesterday with the seizure of about \$1,000,000 worth of tobacco, cigars and cigars in New York, Brooklyn and Long Island City, is being continued by the Secretary of the Treasury, Mr. McMillan. Secretary McMillan said today that raids are in prospect in two other large cities, New Orleans and San Antonio, Tex. The Department had entered on a campaign to stamp out frauds committed in the last fifteen years through the selling of sugar boxes and the use of counterfeit internal revenue stamps. Mr. McMillan expressed the opinion that the Government has lost many millions.

Commissioner of Internal Revenue George B. Hays has been authorized to detail as many inspectors and revenue agents as may be necessary to make the campaign nationwide.

LIVINGSTON ATTACKS HASKELL

Kings Leader Says Congressmen Bought Moose Aid.

The internal battle in the Republican county organization in Brooklyn was stirred yesterday by the appearance of a four page typewritten statement by Election Commissioner Jacob L. Livingston, chairman of the executive committee of the county committee, in which he attacks Congressman Richard L. Haskell, leader of the Twenty-third Assembly district, and charges that Haskell received \$1,500 from Isaac Sargent, a Progressive, after the latter had voted to put Haskell on the Progressive ticket for Congress in 1914.

Livingston charges that Haskell admits the truth of this charge. He says that Sargent paid the \$1,500, his salary as delegate to the Constitutional Convention, because he was an employee of the State Comptroller's office and did not want to receive two salaries from the State. Livingston charges that the other \$750 was paid to William Bushman because Bushman was Haskell's political friend.

Congressman Haskell, who is in Washington, said that the statement was "another of Livingston's vicious and false insinuations," and added "if Livingston will make a direct charge against his signature he will be prosecuted."

NEW CENTRAL LEATHER DIVIDEND

The directors of the Central Leather Company have declared a dividend of \$1 per share on the common stock payable on May 1 to stock of record on April 10. Members of the board refused to state after the meeting whether the stock could be leveraged for consideration as a quarterly basis at that rate, but the financial district was inclined to infer that such would be the case. At the conclusion of the last calendar year the company followed the custom of declaring dividends on the common stock in a lump sum for the year.

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N. Y. LOSES HIGHWAYS FIGHT

City Must Pay 70 Per Cent of Up-keep by New Law.

ALBANY, March 21.—Despite the pro-

test of New York city Assemblymen the House passed a bill today introduced by Chairman William J. Maier of the Ways and Means Committee appropriating \$1,900,000 for the repair and improve-

ment of town highways. The New York city members objected to paying 70 per cent of the cost.

The vote was 85 to 59, all of the New York members present voting against the measure.



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